

RESPONSE

Firstly, the Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to speak with Applicants' attorney on May 12th regarding the Advisory Action.

In the Advisory Action, it is noted that the proposed amendments of Applicants' response, dated April 11, 2005, would not be entered as the term "either" in the proposed amendment to claim 18 raised issues of indefiniteness. In Applicants' response, an amendment was also proposed to claim 12. However, as claim 12 was amended to depend upon amended claim 18, the amendment to claim 12 was also not entered. Also in the response, claim 8 was cancelled. Per the Advisory Action, this amendment was also not entered.

Pursuant to the above-mentioned telephone conversation with the Examiner, Applicants have herein deleted the term "either" from the proposed amendment to claim 18. As such, amended claim 18 is believed not to raise issues of indefiniteness.

As set forth in the Applicants' response, claims 9, 12, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by CA 2269412. For the reasons set forth therein and repeated below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

CA 2269412 relates to UV-curable aqueous coating compositions comprising (meth)acryloyl functional polyurethanes, optionally additional polyisocyanates, a UV initiator, and active hydrogen containing compounds. It teaches that the incorporation of urethane (meth)acrylates into aqueous binders may be facilitated by preparing the urethane (meth)acrylates from polyisocyanates which were rendered hydrophilic. Hydrophilic properties can be imparted anionically, cationically or non-ionically via internal or external emulsifiers such as polyethers (see page 6, lines 7 – 12). CA 2269412 thus describes six different ways to impart hydrophilic properties. The content of internal alkylene oxide (i.e. polyether) groups of the (meth)acryloyl functional

polyurethane according to the present invention is neither mentioned nor suggested in CA 2269412.

Claim 18 has been amended to include all of the limitations of allowed claim 1. As such, claim 18 and its dependent claims 9, 12, and 16, are not anticipated by the cited art.

Claim 8 is cancelled herein.

As pending claims 1-6, 10, 11 and 13-15 have been allowed, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims and a finding that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Keimpe Jan VAN DEN BERG, et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle J. Burke".

Michelle J. Burke

Reg. No. 37,791

Attorney for Applicants

Akzo Nobel Inc.
Intellectual Property Dept.
7 Livingstone Avenue
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-3408
(914) 674-5459